MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING,

IN COMPLIANCE WITH A RESOLUTION OF 2d INST.

A STATEMENT

OF

ALL THE ARMS AND ACCOUTREMENTS

WHICH

Have been manufactured at the different Armories of the United States, with the cost of each stand; and the number delivered to each state respectively, under the act for arming the whole body of the Militia.

FEBRUARY 24, 1818.

Printed by order of the Senate of the United States.

WASHINGTON

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To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, requesting me to cause to be laid before them, a statement of all the arms and accoutrements which have been manufactured at the different armories of the United States, with the cost of each stand, and the number delivered to each state respectively, under the act for arming the whole body of the militia, I now transmit a report from the Secretary of War, with the documents marked A, B, and C, which, together with a report to him from the Ordnance Department, contains the information required.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, February 23, 1818.

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DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

February 21, 1818.

The Secretary of War, to whom was referred a resolution of the Senate of the 2d inst. "requesting the President of the United States to cause to be laid before the Senate, a statement of all the arms and accourrements which have been manufactured at the different armories of the United States, with the cost of each stand, and the number delivered to each state respectively, under the act for arming the whole body of the militia," has the honor to transmit statements marked A, B, and C, accompanied by a letter from the Ordnance Department.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. CALHOUN.

The President of the United States.

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ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT,

February 19, 1818.

SIR,

In answer to the call of the honorable the Senate of the United States of the 2d Feb. 1818, as communicated from your department, for "a return of the arms and military stores furnished to the respective states, under the provisions of the law of 1808," I have the honor, in obedience to your directions, to submit the following report:

An account was made out in the Department of War, from the vouchers transmitted to this office, and that of the late Superintendent General of Military Supplies, of the whole number of arms which appeared to have been delivered under the law of 1808, amounting, as per statement accompanying this report, and marked

A, to 62,606.

Taking that account as a basis, an apportionment was made of the number, or part thereof, which each state was entitled to, according to its effective militia; the respective numbers of which will appear in the statement marked B, and annexed thereto.

The document marked A, will also exhibit wherein some states have received more, and others less, than their respective propor-

tions of arms.

The apportionment and adjustment thus made, was considered by the Department of War, as bringing them up to the 1st January, 1816; and the final settlement, and future arrangement for delive-

ries, were referred to the Department of Ordnance.

In obedience to that reference, circular letters were addressed on the 18th September, 1816, and 15th April, 1817, to the executive authorities of the several states, by the Department of Ordnance, announcing that it would take measures for a general settlement of the accounts of arms (in whatever way delivered) between them and the United States; that it would be prepared to make further deliveries where they should be due; and that where balances appeared against any particular state, the amount would be included in the next quota which should be assigned to it. Intimation was also given that where artillery should be preferred, in lieu of arms, this department would furnish it accordingly.

The officers of the Ordnance Department have, since those communications, attended to the service which devolved upon them, as far as has been found practicable, as will more fully appear under the head of "Remarks," which are attached to the statement marked A.

Considerable embarrassment and delay occurred in the performance of that service, from the difficulty of obtaining regular and correct vouchers for the deliveries of arms, as directed by the law of

1808, in distinction from those delivered to the militia, whilst in the service of the United States, during the late war—a difficulty perhaps unavoidable, from the extensive scenes of military operations, and the consequent loose or incorrect manner in which accounts of the deliveries of arms, and other munitions of war, were made and recorded.

It will be perceived from the exhibit, marked B, that the returns of the effective militia in the respective states is very deficient; some of them being of a very remote date. Partial returns have been received for 1816 and 1817, at the office of the Adjutant and Inspector General of United States' army, but it will be necessary, and it is respectfully recommended, that measures be taken for obtaining more complete returns to that office, agreeably to laws of 8th May, 1792, and 2d March, 1803, before another apportionment of arms be assigned to the respective states.

This department is continuing its exertions to effect a settlement up to the 1st January, 1816, as speedily as possible; greater delay has

been hitherto experienced than was originally anticipated.

I have the honor also to enclose a statement of the number and species of arms manufactured and repaired at the national armories, since their first establishment, which you will perceive from the exhibit, marked C, and also called for by the honorable Senate.

With much respect, I am,

Sir,

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Your obedient servant,

G. BOMFORD,

Lt. Col. of Ordnance.

Hon. J. C. Calhoun,

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Secretary of War.